

[29th March 1955]

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS APPROPRIATION BILL, 1955 (L.A. BILL NO. 5 OF 1955).

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Sir, I move—

3-10
p.m.‘ *That the Madras Appropriation Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1955), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration.*’

I do not propose to make any speech at this stage, Sir. I eagerly await the fresh and new points which the hon. Members may be pleased to make.”

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—“ We expect to put forward new points.”

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ Motion moved—

‘ That the Madras Appropriation Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1955), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration.’ ”

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ Sir, during the general discussion on the Budget in the Council last time I rather very vehemently placed before this House the grievances of my district and even went to the extent of pointing out that this Government had been calculatingly and deliberately neglecting my district in various matters. At the time of the reply by the Hon. the Leader of the House, unfortunately I was not here. I am one of those, Mr. Deputy Chairman, who have burnt their boats in the cause of struggle for freedom of this country and I have to depend upon my daily work for livelihood. That is the only reason. My absence should not be taken as want of courtesy to the House, to the Chairman or to the Leader of the House. I am very sorry I was not present. I am sorry, to-day the hon. Leader of the Opposition, a distinguished countryman of mine is not present in the House to-day. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition who was little moved by my speech had been easily converted by the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam. Clever as he is and distinguished as he is in various walks of life, he is famous in medical world, educational world and in the international sphere. Such a great man Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar was easily hoodwinked by capable, clever, cunning, crafty, Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam.”

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY :—“ Are words like ‘ cunning ’ and ‘ crafty ’ parliamentary? ”

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ It is no surprise to me that he all on a sudden turned round and said, ‘ why not issue press notes in Malabar? ’

“ The impression left on me was this. Instead of making some provision for amenities to the people in the district of Malabar, they must be satisfied with press notes. When rural electrification is going on, on a large scale in Tamilnad and when almost every

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village is benefited by that scheme, the villagers in my district must be satisfied with series of press notes issued by this Government! The other day the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam was dealing with some figures at the time of his reply. I do not want to cover the entire field. The time at my disposal is very short and I shall deal with one or two points. The population of our State—if I am wrong, I may be corrected—is roughly 356 lakhs, out of which my district contributes—the Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty used to comment upon that fact also—47 lakhs, i.e., 13.3 per cent. If you take the population into consideration we form a big percentage, a good percentage in the population of the State and that also must be taken into consideration when Government allot funds for amenities to the people. After all the State is looking to the convenience and comforts of the people at large. When we wanted medical facilities the Hon. A. B. Shetty said ‘you are multiplying fast’. In this year’s budget Rs. 11 crores has been provided for the electrification of 2,500 villages. I respectfully ask the Government ‘out of this amount what have you provided for the district of Malabar?’ Out of this big amount Government have provided only a little more than Rs. 5 lakhs for electrification of the villages in the district of Malabar. If I am wrong, the Hon. Minister can correct me. Last year there was a provision of some small amount for electrification in the Malabar district. I come from a place called Ottapalam and there was a provision of about Rs. 3½ lakhs in the last year’s budget for the electrification of that area. But that has not been done yet.

“I am happy that at least Tamil people are getting some benefits. The hon. Member Sri Annamalai Pillai who is a veteran Congressman and with whom I have fought many a battle and for whom I have great respect, said the other day ‘If you want to remain here study Tamil, or else you will have to get out’. He was not sympathetic towards the people of Malabar when he was criticising. Whatever it is, I am happy that at least the villages in Tamilnad are getting amenities. I am not unhappy on that ground only. I say that my district also should be taken into consideration when making provisions for these kind of amenities to the people of the State.

“The Hon. the Chief Minister promised to have an extensive tour in my district in the near future. I welcome that. Whenever the Chief Minister comes to the district the people of the district will be glad as they will be having an opportunity to place facts and figures before him and also represent their grievances in person.”

SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI;—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கனம் நண்பர் கோவிந்த மேனன் அவர்கள் பேசும்போது, பட்ஜெட்டைக் கூட ஆற்றிலே கொண்டுபோய் போடவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னார்கள். அவர்கள் பேசியது சூற்றமல்லவா? இது பார்லிமெண்டரி வார்த்தையா என்று கேட்கிறேன்? இப்போது நான் சொல்வதற்காக வருத்தப்பட மாட்டார்கள் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். நான் கூறுவதை முற்றிலும் மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு, இனிமேல் சற்று ஜாக்கிரதையாக பேசும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

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* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ He asked me in Malayalam whether I understood Tamil. I did understand it. I am told that the Hon. the Chief Minister will be going to Malabar district on an extensive tour. That is a good opportunity for the people of Malabar to make representations. Unfortunately the Hon. the Chief Minister is not present now. When we, Members, are absent, we are taken to task. The Hon. the Chief Minister may have other important duties to perform. I do not complain about his absence. Anyway, with great respect I would tell him, ‘ If you go to Malabar with empty hands, you will be simply aggravating the situation that has been created there already. There is a feeling that this Government deliberately made Malabar unhappy, as far as administration is concerned. They did not want to do justice to the district of Malabar. The Hon. Sri Kamaraj Nadar wants to undertake an extensive tour in Malabar. It is better for him to announce at the time of his tour something by way of provision for electricity and other amenities for the district.’ ”

DR. A. SREENIVASAN :—“ Mr. Deputy Chairman, I would like to know whether any personal harm would be caused to the Hon. Chief Minister if he goes with empty hands to the Malabar district.”

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ I thought that the Hon. the Chief Minister would care more for the party in power and his country than for his person. I am under the impression that he is more anxious about the people of his country than about his person. The Hon. the Chief Minister is above personal considerations. If he had been present here, I would have appealed to him personally, ‘ If you go to Malabar it is better before you go you make some provision out of the funds allotted for this year’s budget for the amenities of Malabar.’ ”

“ Take the matter of handloom. Our district has got some important factories. But no provision is made for helping handloom industry in the district of Malabar in this year’s budget. The Hon. Sri B. Parameswaran is here. There is a lot to be done for the Harijans of Malabar. He himself will confess that nothing has been done for providing house-sites or any other amenities for the poor Harijans. This is the position for the last so many years.”

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—“ On a point of order, Sir. I have not confessed, but I said that there was yet a lot to be done. I did not say that nothing had been done.”

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ I am glad that he concedes, if not confesses, that there is a lot to be done for the Harijans. (An hon. Member : ‘ Not only in Malabar but in other districts also.’) This shows that the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that Malabar district has been neglected by the Government. The British Government neglected our Malabar district. In the matter of irrigation when crores of rupees were being spent in the rest of the Composite State of Madras, only a

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small sum of three thousand rupees odd were spent in Malabar in the course of one hundred and fifty years on irrigation. But after we became independent, when our own people took over the reins of administration, we thought that there would be a different treatment to Malabar. There has always been the feeling that we have been neglected by the Britisher. Of course now there are the Malampuzha, Mangalam and Walayar Projects. These are only the beginnings of irrigation projects in Malabar. What have the Government done regarding minor irrigation schemes in the district of Malabar? Regarding the Malampuzha Project I am tempted to tell a story. I hope the hon. Member Mr. Raza Khan will excuse my telling the story. The story is rather not in good taste. But I think I must tell that story. This Government are taking credit for the Malampuzha Project. The story is that a father was fondling his wife's child very much. The mother of the child turned round and said, 'What right have you to fondle the child but for your neighbour?' I ask this Government whether they had any contribution to make to the Malampuzha Project? The whole expenditure on this project is met by the Central Government, and they can take the credit for this project. I ask this Government, but for the help of the Central Government, whether they would have taken up this project. My conviction is that before the Hon. the Chief Minister goes to Malabar, he must really consider the conditions in Malabar."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Sir, may I know whether the hon. Member maintains that the Government of India gave us a subsidy or grant for taking up this Malampuzha Project?"

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"That is my information. Sir. Subsidy was given to this Government. If I am wrong, I may be corrected."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"The hon. Member needs to be better informed in this regard. No doubt with reference to all items of capital expenditure we get loans from the Government of India. But that does not mean that the Government of India have given grants in respect of every scheme. If the hon. Member should consider that it is the Government of India's grant that is being utilized in respect of every scheme, he can have no claim against this Government and no grievance also against this Government."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"The Government of India loan is accepted and this Government add to it for being spent in other parts of this State."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—"It is not being added to."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON:—"Sir, I have no complaint against Sri Annamalai Pillai taking me to task. But my own

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district Member Sri Parameswaran is trying to out Herod Herod. (Interruption.) I do not want any personal benefit. I am only voicing the feelings of the people of Malabar."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Simply because the hon. Member has burnt his boats politically, he should not injure the interests of the people of Malabar as such."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" I am not injuring the interests of the people of Malabar. But if I raise my voice here, it has got its effect, and I am able to draw the attention of the Government to the conditions in Malabar. I do not care what happens to me personally. It is only to bring to the notice of the Government the position in Malabar that I raise my voice here. The hon. Member Sri Parameswaran took me to task for saying all this. He is too ready to worship. But I have got a great feeling towards my young Friend Sri Ummer Koya. He has got a future. He is a young man with a bright future. I would like to remind him, Mr. Deputy Chairman, of the words of the greatest Parliamentarian of to-day Mr. Winston Churchill, and what I am going to say has been reported in yesterday's papers. He said, ' Your first duty is to your country, your second duty is to your constituency, and your third duty is to the party to which you belong '. My young Friends, who, I say have got a future, must know this. I have got a soft corner for them. Let us not sacrifice the interests of Malabar."

" Sir, I shall conclude my speech with one more point. All of us, at least the Treasury Bench and the Congress Party, are gloating over the success in elections in Andhra. I share that feeling with them. I would have been unhappy if that had been otherwise. I am not sorry that the result is what it is. What is the reason for it? The reason is this. Last time in 1952 the very same Andhra showed a different result. But this time it has shown a better result. According to some of us the reason is that there was a feeling of frustration as far as the Andhra districts in the Composite State were concerned. That feeling is now removed. Therefore it is that there is this change."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If the hon. Member wants to go away from Madras State, we will not be sorry for it."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" We are confronted with the saying, ' You get away if you want '. It is no question of going away. Malabar is part of this State. I am now quoting the words of the Finance Minister uttered in the Assembly. He said that so long as Malabar remained in Madras State it would be treated justly. Justice must be done to Malabar. I am saying this not for the sake of Malabar alone but for the sake of the whole State. The feeling of frustration in one part of the State is not good for the whole State. The feeling of frustration in one part of the State will have a reaction which we did not anticipate. Only to point this out, I had to speak at great length. I want not only

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Malabar but all the districts in our State to prosper. Malabar has been neglected by the Treasury Bench. The Government must have a totally different outlook regarding the district of Malabar.

“ The hon. Member Sri Annamalai Pillai objected to my saying (during the budget discussion) that the budget should be thrown into the Cooum river. That was his complaint. I think perhaps Cooum river is not quite a good place for throwing the budget into. This Appropriation Bill, as regards my district, is a Misappropriation Bill. We are denied our share of the facilities and amenities. I would with great respect to Annamalai Pillai say, ‘ Let this Bill be not thrown into the Cooum river but into the Bay of Bengal ’.”

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ Hon. Members will confine their speeches to five minutes. Sri E. H. Parameswaran will now speak.”

SRI E. H. PARAMESWARAN :—“ We shall be given more time than five minutes, Sir.”

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—“ Seven minutes, I give.”

* SRI E. H. PARAMESWARAN :—“ Sir, I support the motion of the Hon. Minister for Finance that the Appropriation Bill be passed. I am sorry that I have to speak so soon after the hon. Member Sri M. P. Govinda Menon. He made so many references to me and also to other hon. Members. I feel that no useful purpose would be served by Sri Govinda Menon representing the interests of Malabar in the manner he did. When we spoke the other day we said what we felt. But we were not able to agree with the proposition that this Government had deliberately and consistently neglected the interests of Malabar. What I said was that when once a person was elected to the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council he should remember the famous words of Lord Macaulay that he was no longer a member of that particular constituency but a member of the State or the country at large. We have to view matters from the point of view of the general interests of the State as a whole and not of a particular district or taluk or village. In answering some of his criticisms, we said that there were the Malampuzha scheme, the Walayar scheme and the Mangalam scheme. I, as a representative of the teachers, also had occasion to point out that as far the teachers of Malabar were concerned, they were quite thankful to the Government because the Government had directed payment to the teachers of Malabar direct, a thing which had not been done in any of the other districts. Anyhow, I do not want to harp on this theme and speak about the steps taken to improve the conditions in Malabar or about the alleged neglect of Malabar. I am sure that if matters are represented properly to the Government by the Members of the Assembly and the Council, this Government will not neglect the interests of Malabar or for that matter of any other district.

“ Sir, I have one or two observations to make. There is a 3-30 supplementary provision of eighty-one lakhs of rupees under p.m. Education and the Hon. the Minister said that it was for increased

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expenditure on account of the arrears of advance teaching grants and also for the single-teacher schools. With regard to the single-teacher schools, several hon. Members have made the suggestion that experienced teachers should be put in charge of the single-teacher schools, and that inexperienced teachers who are now heads of the single-teacher schools should be transferred to larger schools where there are six or seven teachers. I would request the Hon. the Minister for Education kindly to consider this matter because there is very great discontent about the working of the single-teacher schools.

“ While I am on the subject of single-teacher schools, I feel it my duty to offer my congratulations to the Government and the Hon. the Minister for Education in particular on the very bold announcement that was made regarding pension for teachers in all elementary schools. I feel very proud that this Government have set an example in this respect. Our teachers have been asking for a pension scheme combined with compulsory insurance along with the provident fund scheme. I am very glad that the Hon. the Minister for Education in his reply to the debate in the Assembly announced that the Government had decided to introduce a system of pension for elementary school teachers, teachers working not only in aided schools but in schools under local bodies also. The scheme covers roughly about 85,000 teachers in the whole State and this is an achievement of which the Government of Madras can be proud. This is certainly a step in the direction of nationalization of education which many of us feel is a right step. I would only request the Hon. the Minister to consider if it will not be possible to extend this pension scheme to teachers getting small salaries in middle and high schools also. On a rough calculation, I find that 85,000 teachers will be getting this benefit and there will be only about 10,000 more teachers in middle and high schools getting low salaries. I find again on a rough calculation that some 45,000 rupees will be required if this benefit is to be extended to the teachers in middle and high schools.

“ With regard to midday meals, Sir, I do not know which Government was responsible for the abolition of the system of midday meals. It was of course a retrograde step. We were able to do much by way of provision of midday meals to poor children studying in schools. I am happy that this Government have decided to introduce the system of midday meals for poor children in elementary schools. Only the other day, Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister said that he was trying to devise some system whereby midday meals could be given to children suffering from poverty. Sir, so many parents are not able to send their children to school only on account of poverty and not because they do not want to educate their children. There is the problem of clothing. Children are not able to go to school properly dressed. They do not get proper food. So, if this system of midday meals is introduced, it will be a great step in the direction of eradication of illiteracy in the country.

“ Sir, you have warned me that the time at my disposal is short and I shall not exceed the time-limit fixed for me. I once again

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thank the Government for having taken the important step of providing pension for elementary school teachers and I am sure in course of time, the Government will also introduce the system of compulsory insurance for all teachers in the State. With these remarks, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion that the Appropriation Bill be passed."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I was a little sorry—why little—I was very sorry that my hon. Colleague, Mr. Govinda Menon, should have lost his temper and his reason should have been clouded by anger. I was also sorry that he should have used in respect of the Hon. Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam, words like 'cunning' and 'crafty'."

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I did not mind it at all although the expressions were totally unparliamentary. I know the meaning given in the dictionary for 'crafty' is 'deceitful' and that is the synonym given in the book for that word. But I did not mind the expressions because I knew the hon. Member was in an utter state of frustration. I did not at all attach any serious importance to those words."

* SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" Sir, there was nothing wrong in what I said. Had I gone wrong, you would have pulled me up and I would have withdrawn those words. Even now, facts are there. The Hon. the Minister said it was due to frustration. But the frustration is not personal but of the district."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" Sir, I am not on any point of order since the Hon. the Minister himself did not choose to object to the remarks. But so far as this House is concerned, I am very anxious that the dignity of the House should not suffer. At no time would I like—even though I may be in the Opposition—such remarks being made. Knowing as I do the Hon. Mr. M. Bhaktavatsalam, I can say that he would never be a party to acts which would warrant such statements on the part of anybody. I am not speaking against anybody here when I say this. I leave it there."

" Sir, certain facts were mentioned by the Hon. the Leader of the House when he replied to the general discussion on the Budget the other day. These facts were not controverted by the hon. Member, Mr. Govinda Menon. If he had controverted them and proved his case and convinced us that the Hon. the Leader's statement was mere coloration, then I would have very much appreciated his stand not only with indignation but also with exasperation for the attitude taken by the Government. But the absence of such a thing makes me feel that I should not fully sympathize with him, though I am as much in favour of things being done for Malabar as are done for every other district. Then, Sir, we must also have due regard to the circumstances of the case. How far each district contributes to the general exchequer—this alone should be the criterion in deciding how much should be spent in that area, if the Government want to be impartial in such

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matters. Take for example irrigation. The main districts which are a source of supply of food alone are more in need of irrigation facilities. In the very nature of things, it is only these districts that contribute vitally to the production of food every year. In this respect there is bound to be some difference in the treatment meted out to the various districts. But I cannot accuse the Government of Madras of being partial to any district and illiberal and unjust to any other district. Malabar has been there for a long time. Many of my friends from Malabar are here. They are occupying high positions in all parts of the country. They are doing very good work. (Sri M. P. Govinda Menon : 'Perhaps it is because of this, you do not give them anything'.) But you have not proved that the Government have not given you anything. That is the unfortunate predicament in which I am. I know the facts mentioned by the Hon. the Leader of the House in his reply to the general discussion on the Budget. Does the hon. Member still maintain that these are not facts and that nothing has been done for Malabar?

"Sir, sometime has been taken by me to explain the position of the Government. I am glad that the hon. Member, Mr. Parameswaran, has welcomed some of the steps that the Government have taken. He particularly made mention about the pension scheme of the Government. I am encouraged to ask for a little more and I would request the Hon. the Minister for Education to consider the claims of the secondary grade trained teachers also in this matter. I am sorry their claims have not been considered. After all their salary is not much—some Rs. 45 rising up to Rs. 75 before they retire from service.

"The salary that is given to a postman in our State is being given to these teachers. They are not able to live within that salary. If this pension is given to all the secondary-grade teachers, then a lot of discontent in their ranks would be removed. Their faces would become cheerful. The boys studying under them would also become cheerful. It will be an encouraging step and the boys would be trained well. That is what I want to say so far as this aspect is concerned. I welcome really the generosity and the far-sighted vision of the Hon. Minister for Education in having given pension to all elementary school teachers. It will go a long way to encourage them in their work.

"I would like to say another thing. This Appropriation Bill deals with various items which have to be provided for and we cannot say anything against them. One thing I would request this Government to do. Our Government should fully utilize all the money that is provided for in the Second Five-Year Plan. The Second Five-Year Plan envisages an outlay of Rs. 7,355 crores. That is the figure that has been estimated according to the recent figures, I saw. For industry they propose to spend Rs. 2,000 crores. Our Prime Minister has been insisting on heavy industry being started first, then medium industries and small-scale industries later. While the First Five-Year Plan emphasized on irrigation and electricity schemes, it has been legitimately and properly stated

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that under the Second Five-Year Plan the emphasis would be on industry and transport. Therefore now is the time for the Madras Government to be wakeful and vigilant and to press upon the Central Government for various capital outlay schemes for heavy industries in our State. Why not this Madras Government press upon the Central Government for the location of a Steel Plant in our State? That is what I want to ask. The Centre is thinking of other centres but not our State. It is our legitimate duty to impress upon the Central Government for the location of a steel plant here in our State. (Hear, hear.) The reasons for it are two-fold. Of all States, I make bold to say, the labour is still larger in our State than in any other State in India. It is a demonstrable fact. If you go to Bombay and if you see many of the industrial concerns there, if you see the mills there, you will find starving labourers who have all been recruited from this State. They are Tamil and Malayalee labourers. (An hon. Member : 'What about Telugus' !) Telugu labourers are only few. That is what I saw. Secondly our State is more suited for the purpose of starting heavy industries than other States. The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam the other day convened a conference of the industrialists from the private sector to discuss the Second Five-Year Plan. Unfortunately in our State, on account of the recent income-tax proposals which the Union Finance Minister announced while presenting the Union Budget for 1955-56, the back of the private sector stands to be broken. The super-tax level has been lowered. The income-tax slab has been increased. The unearned income and allowances have been completely thrashed and the entertainment allowance has been cut into. That is what we find in the recent income-tax proposals outlined by the Union Finance Minister while presenting the Union Budget for 1955-56. These proposals which he has outlined, are bound to seriously affect the middle-classes and the higher middle-classes in our State. Our State contains very few rich people. Under the level of persons earning from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 15,000 annually, a large number of people come in. People earning Rs. 2 lakhs and above annually are very few in our State. When such is the case, with the recent income-tax proposals outlined in the recent Union Budget, and with the taxation proposals that were also outlined the purchasing power and the investing power of our people will be seriously affected. Therefore I fail to see how any real substantial help could be got from the private sector in the matter of investment; on account of the low purchasing power of the lower-income group which is predominant in our State, it is the duty of this Government to ask the Central Government to start heavy industries in our State not only for the purpose of enriching our State but also for the purpose of solving the unemployment that is looming large in our State and for the purpose of raising the level of income in our State. Our State is also suited for starting heavy industries because of the skilled labour, which we possess. Therefore it is I say that it is the duty of the Madras Government to impress upon the Centre to start heavy industries in our State. Already the Second Five-Year Plan is being finalized and the sooner it is done, the better for us. That is my point.

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“So far as medical and educational schemes are concerned, there should have been a larger expenditure provided for in the budget and in the Appropriation Bill also. It is necessary to convert all the elementary schools into basic schools as soon as possible. The increasing the number of single-teacher schools is not of so much use as the conversion of all elementary schools into basic schools. Similarly as per the recommendation of the Secondary Education Commission, all ordinary high schools should also be converted into multi-purpose higher secondary schools. (At this stage Mr. Chairman occupied the Chair.) There has been some little controversy about the necessity of raising the higher secondary school-course. I think the controversy is due to some confusion. It is for the purpose of increasing the number of years, whether it should be 3 or 4 years' course. If we have a four-year integrated higher secondary course the products of that higher secondary course may be in a better position, so that when they emerge from their course they would be better qualified to take up different walks of life. They would have a better academic status by undergoing the integrated course rather than rushing in for an academic course in the University without any real objective. That is the point in having a four-year integrated course. Therefore it is necessary that our Government should think of a capital outlay for the purpose of converting as many ordinary high schools as possible into multi-purpose higher secondary schools. For this they require large equipment, better trained teachers, more personnel and more buildings, etc. It is necessary that for all this, capital expenditure should be provided for. According to the 'Introduction to the Budget' prepared by the Finance Secretary, Mr. Varghese, which is a very notable document, it is pointed out that where there are financial schemes costing over 5 lakhs instead of spending for it from the current expenditure it is better to provide from capital outlay schemes. That seems to be the general tendency. Instead of spending the whole from the Revenue Account, we can say it is a capital outlay and spend it on the Capital Account and we can show a deficit under Capital Outlay schemes and ask for more grant and financial help from the Central Government to fill up our deficit under Capital Account. We need not show a deficit under Revenue Account by showing all the expenditure under the heads, education and medical, under the Revenue Account. Government should be very careful in dealing with these schemes and they should call upon the Union Government to give them more money, more loans and more grants so that they may spend that money to fill up their deficit under Capital Account. That would help our State very much.”

3-50 p.m. *SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI :—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த வரவுசெலவுத் திட்டமானது அசெம்பிளியிலும், இந்த சட்டசபையிலும் நன்கு விவாதிக்கப்பட்டு இறுதியாக ஒவ்வொரு இலாகாவிற்கும் வேண்டிய செலவினங்களை அந்தந்தத் துறை அமைச்சர்களால் குறிப்பிட்டு அசெம்பிளியில் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டு, இங்கு ஒப்புதலுக்காக வந்திருக்கிறது. ஆகவே இந்தக் கட்டத்திலே பொதுவாக சில குறைகளைச் சொல்ல இயலுமே தவிர மற்ற எவ்வித மாற்றங்களையும் செய்வதற்கு இடமில்லை.

29th March 1955] [Sri V. V. Ramaswami]

ஆகையால் முதலில் ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் அரசாங்கத்தாரால் செய்யப் பட்டிருக்கும் வளர்ச்சித் திட்டங்களைப் பார்க்கும்போது ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் ஒரு பெரிய நீர்ப்பாசனத் திட்டம் அல்லது மின்சாரத் திட்டம் போன்ற ஏதாவது ஒரு திட்டம் செய்திருக்கும்போது, என்னுடைய தொகுதியாகிய ராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவில் மட்டும் எவ்விதமான ஒரு திட்டம் இல்லாததுகண்டு வருந்தவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. மலையாளத்தார் குறை கூறும் மனப்பான்மையில் நான் சொல்லவில்லை. எங்கள் ஜில்லாவில் பெரிய ஆறுகளும் இல்லை, ஏரிகள் எதுவும் இல்லை. ஆகவே மேற்குத் தொடர்ச்சி மலைகளிலே பருவமழையால் ஏற்படுகின்ற தண்ணீர்ப் பெருக்கை உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொண்டு, எப்படி இந்த ஜில்லாவிற்கு நீரைக் கொண்டு வந்து குளங்களிலும், ஏரிகளிலும் பயன்படும்படி செய்யலாம்; எப்படி நீர்த் தேக்கங்களையும், நீர்ப்பாசன வசதிகளையும் செய்துகொடுக்க முடியுமென்பதை ஆராய வேண்டுமென்று நான் குறிப்பாக அந்தத் துறை அமைச்சர் அவர்களைக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். மலையாளம் புறக்கணிக்கப்படாதாகச் சொன்னபோதிலும், எங்கள் ஜில்லாவைச் சேர்ந்தவராக முதலமைச்சரும் மராமத்து இலாகா அமைச்சரும் இருந்தபோதிலும், எங்கள் ஜில்லாவிற்கு எவ்வித நீர்ப்பாசன வசதியும் ஏற்படுத்தாதது வருத்தத்திற்குரியது. அங்கு பெரிய முனிசிபாலிட்டி இருந்தாலும், குளங்கள் இருந்தாலும் குடி தண்ணீர், பாசன வசதி முதலியவை கிடையாது. ஆகவே அரசாங்கத்தார் எப்படியாவது அங்கே இந்த வசதிகளையெல்லாம் செய்துகொடுக்க முன்வர வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இப்போது நாட்டிலே பலவிதமான திட்டங்கள் அமுலில் இருக்கின்றன. தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்புத் திட்டம், சமூக நலத் திட்டம் போன்றவைகள் நாட்டிலே மக்களிடையே நன்கு பரவப்பட்டு வருகின்றது. குறிப்பிட்ட ஜில்லாக்களில் எடுத்திருந்தபோதிலுங்கூட ஒவ்வொரு பிரிக்காவிலும் இந்த சமூக நலத் திட்டம், தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்புத் திட்டம் போன்ற வேலைகளை மக்கள் எதிர்பார்க்கின்றனர். அதற்குத் தேவையான பண உதவியையும் கொடுத்து வருகின்றனர்; மேலும் கொடுக்கவும் தயாராக இருக்கின்றனர். ஆகவே மக்களுடைய இந்த உணர்ச்சியை, தாங்களும் இந்த வேலைகளுக்கு ஒரு பங்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணத்தை பயன்படுத்தி, இந்த தேசிய விஸ்தரிப்புத் திட்டம், சமூக நலத் திட்டம் ஆகியவைகளை சீக்கிரம் எல்லா ஜில்லாவிற்கும், பிரிக்காவிற்கும் கொண்டுவரவேண்டுமென்றும், அதற்கேப் அதிகாரிகளைப் பிரித்து அல்லது கொஞ்சம் அதிகப்படுத்தி யாவது ஒவ்வொரு பிரிக்காவிற்கும், தாலுக்காவிற்கும் இரண்டு தாசில் தார்களை நியமித்து, இந்த வேலைகளைச் செய்வதற்கு வேண்டியத் திட்டங்களையெல்லாம் வசூலிக்க வேண்டுமென்று நான் அரசாங்கத்தாரை கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“அடுத்து, விற்பனை வரி விஷயமாக சற்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த வரி வியாபாரிகளுக்கு பெரும் பீதியை ஏற்படுத்திக்கொண்டே இருக்கின்றது. 1939-ம் ஆண்டிலே வந்த இந்தச் சட்டமானது எப்படி அமுலில் இருக்கின்றது. அது வியாபாரிகளை எப்படி பாதிக்கிறது. வியாபாரிகள் ஒழுங்காக வியாபாரம் செய்யமுடியாமல் எப்படியெல்லாம் தொல்லைகள் படுகின்றனார் என்ற விஷயங்களையெல்லாம் இன்னும் நன்கு ஆராய்ந்து பார்த்து, சர்க்கார் அதற்கு எந்தவிதமான நடவடிக்கைகளும் எடுக்காதது வருந்தத்தக்கது. சென்ற இரண்டு ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன் கீழ் சட்டசபையிலே இதுபற்றி விசாரணை செய்வதற்கு ஒரு கமிட்டி நியமிப்பதற்கு அக்காலத்தில் இருந்த அமைச்சர் ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருந்தாலும், இப்போது 27-ம் தேதி கும்பகோணத்திலே நடந்த விற்பனை வரி மகாநாட்டிலே நான் தலைமை வகித்து பங்குகொள்ளவேண்டியிருந்தது. அதிலே ஒவ்வொரு வியாபாரிகளும் இந்த விற்பனை வரியினாலும், அந்த இலாகா அதிகாரிகளாலும் ஏற்படுகின்ற தொல்லைகளையும், தங்களுடைய கஷ்டங்களையும் எடுத்துச் சொன்னார்கள். ஆகவே இப்படியெல்லாம் பல கஷ்டங்கள் இந்த வரியினாலும், அதிகாரிகளாலும் ஏற்படுவதால், இந்த நிலைமையை பரிசீலனை செய்வதற்காக ஒரு நிபுணர்கள்கொண்ட கமிட்டியை கட்டாயம் அரசியலார் நியமிக்கும்படி வற்புறுத்திக் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். அப்படி இந்தக்

[Sri V. V. Ramaswami] [29th March 1955]

கமிட்டியை ஏற்படுத்தும்போது அதனுடைய கஷ்டங்களை, எப்படி நிவர்த்திக்கலாம் என்பதற்காகயோசனைகள் கேட்பதற்கு வியாபாரிகளையும் அந்தக் கமிட்டியில் நியமித்துக்கொண்டு இப்போது வரக்கூடிய 9 கோடி ரூபாய் வருவாய் குறையாமலே, எப்படியெல்லாம் சுமுகமாக இந்த வரியை அவர்களிடமிருந்து வசூலிக்கலாம் என்பதற்கு அவர்களுடைய யோசனையைக்கேட்டு சர்க்கார் கட்டாயம் ஒரு கமிட்டியை ஏற்படுத்த முன்வர வேண்டுமென்று மீண்டும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“பொதுவாக, தமிழ்நாட்டிலே இப்போது ஒரு உணர்ச்சி ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதாவது இனிமேல் இந்த தமிழ் மாநிலத்திலே தமிழ்மொழி ஆட்சிமொழியாக வரவேண்டுமென்ற கருத்து மக்கள் மனதிலே நிரம்பியிருக்கின்றது. அமைச்சர்கள் அவர்களும், தங்களுக்கு அந்த உணர்ச்சி இருக்கிறது என்று திரும்பத் திரும்பச் சொல்வது எங்களுக்கு மகிழ்ச்சி தருவதாக இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் தமிழனுக்கு பரந்த மனப்பான்மை இருப்பதினாலே, இந்தக் காரியத்தைத் தீவிரமாகச் செய்யமுடியாமல் எல்லோருக்கும் திருப்தி செய்யக்கூடிய நிலைமையில் நடந்துகொள்ள வேண்டியிருக்கின்றது. அவ்வாறு கூறப்பட்டும் வருகின்றது. விட்டுக்கொடுக்கும் மனப்பான்மை இருப்பதினாலே, மற்றவர்களும் அதைச் சாக்காக வைத்துக் கொண்டு தீவிரமாக நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கமுடியாமல் செய்யப்பட்டு வருகின்றது. நமது மாகாணத்தைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் எவ்வளவுதூரம் முயற்சிகள் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கின்றது? ஆந்திரர்கள் எவ்வளவுதூரம் நம் அரசாங்கத்திலிருந்து பிரிந்த பிறகு முயற்சி செய்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதைப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். அவர்கள் எவ்வளவு சீக்கிரம் தங்கள் மாகாணத்தை அமைத்துக்கொண்டார்கள் என்பதைப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் தமிழர்கள்மட்டும் இன்னும் பரந்த மனப்பான்மையிலே இருந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். கனம் சுப்பிரமணியம் அவர்கள் தமிழ்மொழிப் பிரச்சனை வருமபோது சென்னை மாகாணத்தைப் பொறுத்தவரையில் இப்போது ஒரு முடிவுக்கும் வரக்கூடாது; இன்னும் நம்முடைய மாகாணத்திலே மலை யான மக்கள் மற்றும் சில இனத்து மக்களெல்லாம் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்று கூறி வருகின்றார்கள். இந்தக் காரணத்தையெல்லாம் சொல்வதால் நம்முடைய நிலைமையை இன்னும் உறுதிசெய்ய முடியாமல் இருக்கின்றது. ஆகவே இப்படியெல்லாம் சொல்லாமல், கல்வித் திட்டத்திலேயும், மற்றுமுள்ளவற்றிலும் தமிழ் மொழியின் நிலை என்ன? ஆங்கில மொழியின் நிலை என்ன? ஹிந்தி மொழியின் நிலை என்ன? எதை எப்படி எந்தக்கட்டத்தில் நாம் பின்பற்றவேண்டுமென்ற ஒரு உறுதியைச் சீக்கிரம் செய்து, ஒரு திட்டமான முடிவு சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொண்டு முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

* SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“Sir, discussion on the Appropriation Bill is something like an investigation into a thing after everything has been done. Of course, we have discussed the subjects covered by the Bill already. What we are now doing is not to discuss what has already been discussed but to meet the points raised during the discussion.”

“Some controversy has been started about what the Government have done so far as Malabar is concerned. I should like to State, without entering into details of any remark made by one person or another, a few facts about what has been done. The hon. Member hailing from Malabar said that so far as capital outlay for irrigation and other schemes was concerned, there had been no adequate provision made for Malabar. I can tell him that out of Rs. 619 lakhs provided in the Budget by way of grants, a sum of Rs. 100 lakhs has been earmarked for Malabar. That works out to 16 per cent of the total amount. That means an excess of 2½ per

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cent considering the proportion of population. So far as electrification schemes are concerned about which the hon. Member was very eloquent, I am sure he will appreciate what the Government have done so far. For distribution of power in the villages of Edathanatti, Pyllore, Panangathari, Chungathara, etc., we are providing three lakhs of rupees. A blanket grant of Rs. 4 lakhs has also been provided for for distribution of power in Pudiyaagam, Ramaseri, Theneri, Nambakode, Ethanoor, etc. Regarding acquisition of electrical undertakings, a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs has been provided in the Budget for Malabar and a total of Rs. 12½ lakhs for South Kanara. Therefore, so far as electrification schemes are concerned, no complaint can be made against the Government in respect of grants made for Malabar.

“ As regards roads also, a good slice has been given to Malabar. Out of Rs. 170 lakhs, a provision of Rs. 48 lakhs has been made for Malabar. What else can be done so far as this aspect is concerned? I should also like to point out that there are transmission and distribution schemes in Palghat, Tirur, Ponnani, Mahadi, Badagara and Quilandy. These have been stated in the speech of the Hon. Sri Bhaktavatsalam.

“ So far as education is concerned, there is the usual Government contribution. There are two polytechnics, one in Malabar and another in Mangalore. There is the Hydrogenation Factory in Kozhikode. There is a cattle-farm in Malabar and South Kanara.

“ There are 63 fisheries schools in South Kanara and Malabar. There are only four such schools in the East Coast. Therefore, Sir, I wanted to point out these things to the hon. Member Sri Govinda Menon so that he may not go away with a grievance that this thing or that thing has not been done to Malabar. It is not as if we want to neglect Malayalees. In fact, my sincere wish is that they must continue to be with us. After all there is no use in dividing. There is enough division in our country. There need not be further division at all. I would like the Malayalees to continue with us. In fact there are more Malayalees outside Malabar. One of my friends used to remark ‘ They are catching all jobs in all places.’ In fairness to the Government, I must say that the remarks made by the hon. Member Sri Govinda Menon are not quite fair. I would like the hon. Member to go with a feeling that much is being done to Malabar, that something is still waiting for Malabar and that something more also will be done. Malayalees will also gain if they continue to be with us.”

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p.m.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—“ At the outset, although it is not part of the debate, let me strongly protest against the manner in which invitations have been sent to us to attend a party this evening. It is stipulated in the invitation cards that Members should bring the invitation cards with them. I think it is an insult to the Members of the Legislature that a note like this should be added in the invitation asking us to attend the function and at the same time to bring the invitation cards also with us. I only bring it to your notice, Sir, as the invitation is also in your name.”

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SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—" What function is that? "

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" There is a party in honour of Sri R. V. Krishna Ayyar on his retirement and in the invitation card it is stated ' please bring this card with you '."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have not seen the proof copy of this invitation. All that I know about the function is originally it was fixed for the 28th instant, but, as it was not suitable, it was changed to 29th. If I had seen the proof, I would certainly not have tolerated this note to the M.L.Cs., viz., ' please bring this card with you.' "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" For Ministers also the same invitation cards have been issued."

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Ministers are also Members of the Legislature. Then only they became Ministers.

" I do not like this time to argue or add anything to what has been said on the Appropriation Bill by my hon. Friend, Sri M. P. Govinda Menon. I can say only in passing that a very good debate for two hours was rather spoiled by the vehemence with which he spoke. I may concede, Sir, because I also claim to know something about Malabar, that they may have a good case and they may have a grievance. But unfortunately a good case has been spoiled by bad advocacy. Therefore, I feel that if really my hon. Friend, Sri M. P. Govinda Menon wanted that something more should be done to the district of Malabar, he should have put it in a better way, so that it would have its effect on the Treasury Benches. However, it is a matter entirely for the Government or the Hon. Minister to reply to him.

" I am happy the other day the Hon. Finance Minister made a reference to the protest on the taxation proposals while replying to the debate and said that he is surely taking note of the fall in prices as far as agriculture is concerned and if conditions remain like this and if prices show a further downward tendency, the Government may drop the surcharge on land revenue. Having given that assurance, I do not like to embarrass him with any further argument on this subject.

" With regard to taxation proposals on tobacco, it is no question of an individual being affected to the extent of a few annas at all. I know that many of the hon. Members here or in the other House are smokers and any further incidence of taxation may mean a few annas per day or a few rupees per month. But the fact is this. Just a year or so before the Government themselves considered the whole taxation structure as far as tobacco is concerned and they themselves of their own accord said ' There is no case to tax these beedies and other cheap cigarettes because they are being used by the poorer section of the people '. It was not because of the persuasion of hon. Members of this House or of the other House but because the Government themselves felt that there is a case to drop taxation on these things. Having done that, it does not stand to

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reason that just within a year or 18 months Government should come and say ' We want money and therefore, we tax it '. There should be certain finality in these matters, particularly when the Government are concerned. This tax will surely hamper the beedi industry and the tobacco industry as a whole. It may look very easy. I know even people engaged in these industries were making huge profits at a time. But times have now changed. Therefore, I want the Hon. Minister for Finance to examine these things. The number of memorandums submitted to him and the deputation of the Chambers of Commerce will really impress upon him that this is a case which the Government should consider in all its aspects. I do not like to take much time on this subject because I know I am talking on the Appropriation Bill.

" The other day the hon. Finance Minister said that in the matter of helping small-scale industries the State-Aid to Industries Act will be worked liberally. Therefore, the Government are in a mood to help these small-scale industries. Might I bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister that in reply to a question, which I raised some two or three months before, it was pointed out that a sum of Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 lakhs is due from the people who have taken loans for a period of 4 or 5 years. So far I find there has been no recovery. I want to know from the Government what steps have been taken to recover these amounts which are due from a long time. At the same time I may point out to the hon. Minister for Finance that while they should be anxious to help these small-scale industries they should be careful to see that loans are paid to people who will be able to pay them back to the Government.

" Sir, there is a controversy going on in our State with reference to the medium of instruction in schools and languages. No doubt the Leader of the Opposition is not here to-day. But the other day the Hon. Finance Minister asked him as to how he would solve the problem. While I am one with him and others that our regional languages, particularly Tamil, Malayalam and Kanarese should be encouraged and students should be taught in their own mother-tongue, at the same time I am asking the Hon. Minister ' Are our languages so developed as to be adopted as the medium of instruction in teaching science, agriculture and other such complicated subjects when students come to the colleges? ' Even now there is a general feeling or a complaint that the standard has gone down considerably because most of the students are studying in their own mother-tongue. The Hon. Minister for Finance put a very pertinent question ' When students are reading the subjects in Tamil or Malayalam all along and suddenly when they come to the college, if you ask them to learn the subjects by English, how would they adjust? ' But I am asking this question, Sir. Supposing you have the regional languages as the medium of instruction in colleges also and if these students want to go to medical, engineering or agricultural colleges or study advance science, how are they going to adjust? ' Therefore, it is also going to be a different problem. If a boy who has learnt science or other such

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subjects in Tamil is asked to take up medical or engineering studies, it is impossible for him to understand the subject at all. Before trying to adopt the regional languages as the medium of instruction in the colleges, Government should feel themselves satisfied that they have got sufficient books on science, mathematics and so on. Unless and until it is done, it will be a great setback as far as education is concerned. I know the Hon. Minister for Education is not having definite ideas on settled principles. He may have his own ideas to gauge public opinion. I say nothing against the policy which he intends. But I only request him not to do anything in haste because education is such a difficult problem, particularly in a country where we have a number of different languages. Any policy adumbrated by the Government will affect the educational progress and growth of the people for a longer time.

“One more thing which I would like to refer to is Neiveli. Thanks to the arrangements made by the Hon. Minister for Industries. Fifty or sixty members of the Legislature paid a visit to Neiveli and we were really very much impressed with the work that has been done there. We are really happy at the interest which is being taken by the officials. There is a feeling that the Government of Madras have not yet clarified as to why it is that they want that they should be exploited by the Government of India. Is it a question of finance or resources? There is a feeling among a good number of Members of the Legislature that the Government of Madras themselves should undertake this work. If finance is the impediment, can we not get a loan from Government of India? We can pay them some reasonable interest. This project should not be taken up by the Government of India. I do not say this in any spirit of competition. But we Members feel that Neiveli project is the only hope as far as the industrial progress of this State is concerned. When we have no major irrigation projects to be taken up while other States are taking up major irrigation projects, may I ask whether it is too much to impress upon the Government of India to give us some subsidy or other help so that we can undertake the Neiveli project ourselves? We do not know why this project was handed over to the Central Government for execution. No doubt there is the question of getting 25 per cent of the profit from the Government of India. I think the Hon. Minister concerned will clarify this point.”

* SRI A. SUBRAMANYAM:—“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே, இச்சபையின் முன்பாக கடைசி முறையாக கொண்டுவரப்பட்டிருக்கும் வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தை சந்தோஷத்துடன் வரவேற்கின்றேன். மேலும் சில விஷயங்களை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கு ஞாபகப்படுத்தும் முறையில் சில வார்த்தைகள் கூற விரும்புகின்றேன்.

“உபாத்தியாயர்கள் விஷயத்தில் பென்ஷன் முறை கையாண்டிருப்பது பற்றி மிகவும் சந்தோஷப்படுகிறேன். இருந்தாலும்கூட உபாத்தியாயர்களின் வாழ்க்கைத்தரத்திற்கு உகந்த சம்பளத்தை நாம் அவசியம் நிர்ணயிக்கவேண்டும். ஏனெனில் அவர்கள்தான் இந்த நாட்டு மக்களின் அறிவு வளர்ச்சிக்கும், பெரிய உத்தியோகஸ்தர்ளாக இருப்பதற்கும், அதனால் பல சட்ட திட்டங்களைச் செய்வதற்கும் ஆதிகாரணமாக இருக்கின்றார்கள். இந்த சட்டசபையிலும், இந்தக் கவுன்சில் தலைவராக இருப்ப

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வரும் கனம் முதன் மந்திரி, கனம் மந்திரிமார்கள் கனம் அங்கத்தினர்கள் உட்பட பதவி வகிப்பதற்கு அடிப்படைக் காரணஸ்தர்களாக இருந்தவர்கள் ஆரம்ப ஆசிரியர்கள்தான் என்பதை நாம் மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. அவர்களால்தான் நாம் இந்த சட்ட திட்டங்களை எல்லாம் மாற்றவும், சேர்க்கவும் செய்யமுடிகின்றது. குறிப்பாகச் சொல்லப்போனால் இந்திய ஜனாதிபதி, இந்திய பிரதமர் முதலியவர்களுக்குக்கூட ஆரம்ப ஆசிரியர்கள் முதன் முதலில் குருவாக இருந்த காரணத்தினால்தான் இன்று இப்பேர்ப்பட்ட ஒரு பெரிய பதவியை வகிக்க முடிகின்றது. அவர்கள்தான் எல்லோருக்கும் எணியாக இருந்து வருகின்றார்கள். அப்படி அவர்கள் எல்லோருக்கும் எணிபோல் இருந்து எல்லோரையும் மேல்பதவிக்கு ஏற்றி வருகின்றார்களே தவிர, அவர்கள் நிலைமை அன்று இருந்ததபோலவே இன்றும் இருக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அந்த நிலை மிகவும் பரிதாபகரமானதாகும். இதை அரசாங்கத்தார் நன்கு கவனிக்கவேண்டும்: ஏதாவது ஒரு ஆலோசனைசெய்து முடிவுக்கு வரவேண்டும். ஏதோ எட்டில் ஒரு பங்கு, நாலில் ஒரு பங்கு பென்ஷன் வசதி செய்துகொடுத்திருக்கிறோம், அந்த நன்மை போதுமென்று சொல்லிவிட்டால் போதாது. அதை ஒரு பெரிய நன்மையாகவும் கருதமுடியாது. இன்று உபாத்தியாயங்கள் மிகவும் வறுமையால் கஷ்டப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆரம்ப ஆசிரியர்கள் ஏதோ கொஞ்சம் படித்திருந்தாலும், ஆரம்பகாலத்தில் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு அறிவைப்புகட்டக் கூடியவர்கள் என்பதை நாம் மறந்துவிடக்கூடாது. அவர்கள்தான் அறிவு வளர்ச்சிக்கே மூலகாரணமாக இருப்பவர்கள். அவர்கள் இன்று மிகவும் வறுமையால் வாடுகின்றனர். அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கைத் தரத்திற்கெற்ற பணவசதி கிடையாது. போதிய அளவு சாப்பிடுவதற்கு கூட அவர்கள் வசதியில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகின்றனர். சிலர் கூழ்மூடித்து வரக்கூடிய நிலைமையில் இருக்கிறார்கள். பிள்ளைகளுக்கு பாடம் சொல்லிக்கொடுத்தவிட்டு, பால் சாப்பிடுவதற்கு கூட அவர்களிடம் பணவசதியில்லை. கிராம ஆசிரியர்களாக இருந்தாலும் அவர்கள்தான், ஜனாதிபதி முதற்கொண்டு பெரிய பெரிய உத்தியோகத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடியவர்கள் வரையில் முதலில் பாடம் சொல்லிக்கொடுத்து, முன்னுக்குக் கொண்டுவர காரணஸ்தர்களாயிருந்தவர்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுடைய நிலைமைதான் முன்னுக்கு வருவதற்கே வழியில்லாமல் விடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகவே இதையெல்லாம் சற்று ஆலோசித்து, அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கைத் தரத்திற்கு உரிய ஒரு சம்பளத்தையாவது திட்டவட்டமாக வரையறுக்கவேண்டும். இந்த வாழ்க்கைத் தரத்திற்குத்த சம்பளத்தை அவர்களுக்கு திருத்திசெய்து கொடுத்து விட்டால், இப்பொழுது செய்துள்ள பென்ஷன் வசதி கூட அவர்களுக்குத் தேவையில்லை. அவர்களுடைய வாழ்க்கைக்கு என்ன செலவாகும்? அவர்களுடைய குறைகள் என்ன? அவர்களுடைய துணிமணி வசதிக்கும், சாப்பாட்டிற்கும், அவர்களுடைய பிள்ளைகள் படிப்பு வசதிக்கும், வைத்திய வசதிக்கும் வீட்டு வசதிக்கும் ஆகிய இவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் என்ன செலவாகும் என்பதை உடனடியாக அரசாங்கம் வரையறுத்து அவர்களுக்கு உதவிசெய்ய வேண்டுமென்பதை மறக்கக்கூடாது; அதை உடனடியாக அவர்களுக்குச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

“அடுத்தது, பிற்பட்ட இனத்தார் விஷயத்தைப் பற்றி சில விஷயங்கள் குறிப்பிட விரும்புகின்றேன். ஏதோ கல்வி விஷயத்தில் முன்னுபத்த படிவம்வரை இலவசமாகப் படிக்கக் கூடிய வசதி எல்லோருக்கும் பொதுவாக செய்திருந்தாலும்கூட, பிற்பட்ட இனத்துப் பிள்ளைகளுக்கு எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.சி. வரையில் இலவசமாகப் படிப்பதற்கு வசதி செய்துகொடுக்கமுன்வரவேண்டும். அப்படிச் செய்தால்தான் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் முன்னுக்கு வரமுடியும். அதேபோல் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனில்கூட பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு அதிக பிரதிநிதித்துவம் வழங்கப்படவேண்டும். சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனில் மொத்தம் ஐந்து அங்கத்தினர்கள் இருந்தால் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் மூன்று பேர்களை அதில் அங்கம் வகிக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தாருக்கு உரிய சலுகைகளை நியாயமாக அவர்களால் தரமுடியும். அதைத் தவிர பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகத்தில் சலுகைகள் செய்து தரவேண்டும். நூற்று நாற்பத்தி ஒன்று இனத்தவர் இந்தப் பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பிலே இருக்கின்றார்களே, அவர்

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களுக்கெல்லாம் இந்தச் சலுகைகளைக் கொடுக்கமுடியுமா என்று கேட்கலாம்? அது பார்ப்பதற்கு கொஞ்சம் நியாயமாகக்கூடத் தோன்றும். ஆனால் நன்கு பரிசீலனை செய்யப் பார்க்கவேண்டும். நூற்று நூற்றத்தி ஒன்று பிரிவைக் கொண்டவர்களாக இருந்தாலும், இந்த 141 பிரிவினரிலே எத்தனை இனத்தவர் படித்திருக்கின்றனர் என்பதைப் பார்க்க வேண்டும். எத்தனைப் பேர்கள் படித்திருக்கமுடியும்? கள்ளர், மறவர் இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் சிலர் படித்திருக்கலாம்; பண்டாச்சி இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் சிலர் படித்திருக்கலாம்; இன்னும் சில தேவாங்க செட்டியார் இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் படித்திருக்கலாம்; செங்குந்தர்கள் சிலர் படித்திருக்கலாம்; ஆச்சாரியார் இனத்தைச் சார்ந்தவர்கள் சிலர் படித்திருக்கலாம். இன்னும் சலையையாளரும், மருத்துவர்களும், மீனவர்களும் சிலர் படித்திருக்கலாம். அதையெல்லாம் சேர்த்தால்கூட எவ்வளவு பேர்கள் படித்திருக்கமுடியும்? மிகக் கொஞ்சமாகத்தான் இருக்கும். இந்த 141 இனத்திலே நான்கு, ஐந்து இனத்தவர்கள்தான் கொஞ்சம் அதிகமாகப் படித்திருக்கமுடியும். அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுக்குக்கூட சரியாக வேலைகள் கொடுக்கப்படுவதில்லை. ஒட்டர்கள், குறவர்கள் போன்ற இனத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள் ஒன்றிரண்டு பேர்கள் படித்து முன்னுக்கு வந்தால், அவர்களுக்குக்கூட உத்தியோக வசதி அளிக்கப்படுவதில்லை. இவர்கள் சிறுபான்மையாவனவர்களாயிருக்கலாம். ஆனால், பெரும்பான்மையினர்களாய் உள்ள மற்ற பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களைப்பற்றி ஏன் இந்த அரசாங்கம் சிந்தித்துப்பார்ப்பதில்லை? இவர்களை முதலில் கவனிக்கவேண்டுமல்லவா? அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுக்குத்தான் நன்மை செய்யுங்கள் என்று கூறுகிறேன். சேலம், ஆத்தூரில் நரிக்குறவன்மார்கள் இருக்கின்றார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தில் நிலம் கொடுத்து விவசாயம் செய்யுங்கள் என்று சொன்னால் அவர்கள் காடை, கௌதாரி, மைனா பிடிக்கத்தான் சென்று விடுகின்றனர். அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களைப்பற்றியே சிலர் பிரமாதமாகப் பேசுகின்றனர். ஆனால், பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களில் சிலர் இரண்டு, மூன்று டிகிரி பட்டம் பெற்றிருந்தாலும்கூட அவர்களைப்பற்றி கவனிப்பதே கிடையாது. அவர்களுக்கு சரியான வேலைகள் இன்று அரசாங்கத்தால் கொடுக்கப்படுவதில்லை. ஒரு டிகிரி வாங்குவதே கடினம். அப்பேர்ப்பட்டவர்கள் பல டிகிரிகள் வாங்கினாலும் அவர்களுக்கு வேலைகள் கொடுக்கப்படுவதில்லை. அப்படிக்கொடுக்கின்ற வேலையும் மிகவும் கஷ்டமாக இருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு உரிய வேலைகளைக் கொடுக்கப்படுவதில்லை. இப்போது உத்தியோகம் வழங்கப்படுவதில் ஏதோ 25 சதவிகிதம் ஒதுக்கி, முதலில் முற்பட்ட இனத்தவர், பின்னர் ஹரிஜனங்கள், பின்னர் பிற்பட்டவர்கள் என்று இப்படிப் பிரித்துக்கொண்டு அதன்படி கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்தால் எந்தக் காலத்தில் பிற்பட்டவர்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்க முடியும்? அவர்கள் மொத்த ஜனத்தொகையில் 60, 70 சதவிகிதம் இருக்கின்றார்கள். இவர்கள் எல்லாம் வருவாதென்றால் எந்தக் காலமாகும்? ஆகவே, இதையெல்லாம் கவனத்தில்கொண்டு நான் மனப்பூர்வமானதோடு மூன்று பிரிவாகப் பிரிக்கவேண்டும். அதாவது முற்பட்ட இனத்தவர், பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர், ஹரிஜனங்கள் என்று மூன்றாகப் பிரித்து, ஜனத்தொகையை அடிப்படையாகக்கொண்டு அதன்படி உத்தியோகங்கள் ஒதுக்கி வந்தால் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்களுக்கும் மற்றுமுள்ள இனத்தவர்களுக்கும் ஒழுங்காக வேலை கொடுக்கமுடியும். அதனால் பிற்பட்ட இனத்தைச் சார்ந்தவர்களும் அதிக நன்மை அடையமுடியும். பிற்பட்ட இனத்தவர்கள் பொருளாதாரத்தில் முன்னேற்றமடைய சில பர்மிட்களையும் வழங்கி செல்வத்தில் உயர்வடையச் செய்யவேண்டும்.

“இந்த வருஷ பட்ஜெட்டை எல்லோரும் வரவேற்பார்கள் என்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை. கம்யூனிஸ்டுகள்கூட அதிக ஆட்சேபினை இல்லாது வரவேற்று இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களும் ஏதோ வாதாட வேண்டுமென்பதற்காக சில இடங்களில் இப்படி இருக்கவேண்டும், அப்படி இருக்கவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இந்த பட்ஜெட்டை எல்லோரும் வரவேற்றிருக்கிறார்கள் ஆகவே, இந்த வருஷ பட்ஜெட் எல்லோரும் விரும்பக்கூடிய அளவில் வரவேற்கக்கூடிய நிலைமையிலே அமைந்திருக்கிறது என்பதைக் கூறிக்கொண்டு நான் இதை வரவேற்கின்றேன்.”

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MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ The Hon. the Finance Minister will reply at 4-30. Dr. John will now speak and finish his speech before 4-30.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, I must first very emphatically dissociate myself and the Opposition from the characterization which the hon. Member Sri Govinda Menon made of the Leader of the House. I do not think it affects him at all because he is too well known to this House, this State, and outside this State to be affected by the remarks of Sri Govinda Menon. It is unfortunate that these remarks were made. No doubt they were made in the heat of the discussion. It is unfortunate that they should have been made, and having been made and not withdrawn, I think it is my duty and responsibility, as Deputy Leader of the Opposition, to dissociate myself and the Opposition from those remarks, and request the hon. Member not to repeat these remarks in this House as they affect the dignity of the House. Sir, I am one of those

(Sri M. P. Govinda Menon rose in his seat.)

MR. CHAIRMAN :—“ There is no need for any interruption now.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Sir, I am one of those who use very 4-20 strong language in criticism but I criticise matter and not men. P.m. I feel that the hon. Member, Mr. Govinda Menon, has done great disservice to Malabar. Of course, he is not a Member representing Malabar. He has been elected by the Members of the Legislative Assembly. And even if he considers himself as a representative of Malabar in this House, he has done the greatest disservice to Malabar. His criticism was elaborately answered the other day by the Hon. the Leader of the House. The hon. Member would not, however, meet it but used very strong language in his criticism that Malabar had been neglected. One can earn very cheap popularity by stating that the district from which one comes has been discriminated against by the Government. But I ask: Are the Government to go district by district in the matter of expenditure? If they do it, it is very wrong. Does Malabar pay tax according to population? If we begin to calculate the revenue and the expenditure of the State with reference to districts, then I am afraid it may go to taluks and ultimately to individuals. We will not be able to spend any money then on poor people. We will not be able to provide hospitals and other institutions for poor people. So, I would request the Government not to take note of any agitation from any district as such. I may remind my Friend Mr. Govinda Menon, that to my knowledge there are many districts in this State which are only as much served as Malabar is served. Even in Malabar, are there not taluks which have not been served so well as other taluks which have been served? A portion of Malabar is served better than other portions and that cannot mean that administration should be carried on on a districtwar basis. This House must repudiate this tendency on the part of Members to say

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that their districts have been discriminated against. It is only local needs that are to be attended to with reference to priorities assigned to them. On the whole, Malabar has been done the greatest dis-service by the criticism of the hon. Member, Mr. Govinda Menon. I hope the Government will not be affected by it in its policy. I hope the Malayalees also will not be affected in their interests. The criticism was made and was answered and I do hope that it will not be repeated.

" Sir, having said all this, I now come to the Appropriation Bill which covers an expenditure of nearly 112 crores of rupees. It is absolutely necessary to bear in mind—and I am sure that the Hon. the Finance Minister will bear it in mind—the fact that there must be saving in expenditure. I am a bit agitated over expenditure on certain items such as Police, Jails, etc. Large expenditure has been incurred on these items as compared with that in the past or in other States. I am afraid we are spending more. I would suggest to the Hon. the Minister for Finance that in respect of each department of the Government such as Police, General Administration, Jails, etc., he might collect figures from States similarly situated and see how much they are spending on such items. In Hyderabad the expenditure on Police is only a fraction of what we are spending here. Of course, this State is bigger than Hyderabad but unfortunately the expenditure is too much. I hope the Government will enquire into all this.

" Then, Sir, we must cut down expenditure on fads such as khadar and Prohibition. The other day, I read in the newspapers a report of the Government submitted to the Planning Commission about Prohibition. They reported that the Ramamurthi Committee's findings in respect of the Andhra State are equally appropriate for this State also. According to this Committee, Prohibition has ceased to prohibit. I would be very happy if we can enforce Prohibition effectively. But if we can only create a cottage industry for illicit distillation of arrack, etc., it is high time we looked into the whole question again. We started very well. But have we succeeded? It is said that people do not take any interest in it. I do not care, Sir, about the loss of revenue consequent on the introduction of Prohibition as it was collected from poor people. What about the expenditure on its enforcement? What about the demoralization attendant on the failure of enforcement? Actually the jails are full nowadays with persons convicted of Prohibition offences. I would request the Government to look into the matter seriously. They should not think they will lose their dignity or reputation if they go back on their Prohibition policy. Is Prohibition there in West Bengal? Is there Prohibition in our Capital, Delhi? There is nothing of the kind in Travancore-Cochin, in Mysore and Bangalore. And are not people healthy there? Are not those States creating a Welfare State? I would like such fads to be given up.

" I have another observation to make and that is in regard to payment of compensation to former zamindars. I find that a provision of 22 lakhs of rupees is made for this purpose. Sir, I have

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always said that we must collect some money from those who have benefited by our action. Who are benefited by the abolition of the zamindaris? It is the ryots. Why not collect some money from them and pay that money to the erstwhile zamindars by way of compensation? The Uttar Pradesh Government have collected nearly 110 crores of rupees from persons who have benefited from the assignment of lands to them. The money that the Government spend by way of compensation to the erstwhile zamindars can very well be utilized on nation-building activities, for opening more schools, more hospitals, etc. Are we not going to collect a betterment contribution from the people in respect of our irrigation projects? Why not we do so in this case also? I would once again request the Government to consider this question.

“Coming to capital expenditure, Sir, large sums of money are being spent on capital works. I would like the Government to see whether they have worked out the returns that they may get from these. Take irrigation and electricity. Have they found out whether it is worthwhile to spend so many crores of rupees on the various projects that they have undertaken? If so, have they published their findings? I say the public must know all this. The previous Governments were attending to certain capital works and the present Government have been handed down the legacy. We must know how these works will fare. Take electricity again. I do not say that it will not yield any return. But if the purchasing power of the people goes down, they cannot buy electricity. Then, Sir, when the Government are spending so many crores of rupees, the House and the people should know how the money is spent and what the result of the spending is. Let us now come to education. It is said that large sums of money are being spent on education. The Government say they are spending ten crores of rupees. Sir, an expenditure may be a waste or may be beneficial. When they are spending twice or thrice the amount they were spending some years ago on education, the progress should be known to all of us in the form of number of schools newly opened, number of the boys and girls who have been newly attracted to schools, etc.

“I would only hope that at least next year, we can expect the foundations for a Welfare State to be truly laid, through Co-operation. The Government have not made sufficient provision for the development of Co-operation. Sir, stress is laid on the establishment of co-operative institutions and local self-governing bodies on a sound basis. It is only if there are efficient local self-governing bodies and efficient co-operative societies, we can create and promote a Welfare State. I want the Government in spending money on these two things to be anxious to see that something is done in establishing the true foundations on which alone we can create a Welfare State.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“Mr. Chairman, Sir, 4-30
for the last one month the Legislature of this State has discussed P.m.
in detail the budget proposals of this Government. Hon. Members
of the Legislature have made various criticisms. Ultimately with

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the passage of this Appropriation Bill they will be providing the money asked for by Government. So far as the work of the Legislature is concerned it will be over to-day with the passing of this Appropriation Bill and with giving the necessary sanction for Government to draw upon the Consolidated Fund of the State for the purpose of executing the various schemes. But the real work begins only hereafter. It is easy enough to get the sanction from the Legislature. But hereafter it is the duty of the Executive, it is the duty of the various administrative departments to see that this money is properly utilized and the greatest advantage is got for the people of our State. It shall always be our endeavour to see to it that moneys provided for by the Legislature are properly utilized so that people will get the maximum benefits from out of this expenditure (which will in some cases be huge expenditure) that will be incurred during the course of next year. Sir, I do know that when Government takes upon a scheme and proposes to work it out, it is not able to do it as economically as a private person may be able to do. But that is inherent in the very nature of things. But every effort should always be made to see that there is avoidance of wastage at every point. That will always be our endeavour and I am glad for that purpose this Council also will be associated and I hope it would be approved by the Assembly also. I am referring to the association of some Members of the Council in the Estimates Committee, which committee will go into the estimates of the various departments and suggest ways and means to effect economy and to avoid wastage and to improve matters. I am sure the Deputy Leader of the Opposition who has been advocating that there should be greater economy and money should be properly utilized, will be there on the committee. I am eagerly awaiting for his valuable suggestions to see that the money is properly utilized. We should not after having made all speeches shirk the responsibility when asked to shoulder that responsibility. Therefore I am hoping that as he is just nodding his head now, he won't nodd his head when the membership of the Estimates Committee is offered to him. I just mentioned this to show that Government are fully aware of the necessity for economy, for the necessity to be on the watch and see that there is no wastage due to negligence or due to corruption, whatever it might be. In that I am sure the co-operation of all the Members of the Legislature would be available to Government.

“ With reference to the speech of the hon.*Member Sri M. P. Govinda Menon in opening the debate, I am rather sorry for it. I am not angry. As has been pointed out by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and also by other hon. Members, he did not advance the interest of Malabar. He is not an ordinary man. He is an intelligent man. Therefore I do not think he made the speech for the purpose of advancing the interests of Malabar as such. It is something else which has been reflected in his speech. (An hon. Member: ‘ May be for cheap popularity? ’) It is not even for cheap popularity. I wish it is so. That is not going to make him popular. It was a sense of frustration which was exhibited in his

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speech. It was a frustration not for the people of Malabar. But it was a personal frustration. After having been worsted in the elections, himself personally and his party to a great extent, I was not surprised when he made that speech. I am glad he did not make a even worse speech. All these things in public life, all these victories and defeats will have to be taken in a spirit of equanimity and the hon. Member Sri M. P. Govinda Menon does not stand to advance his own interest by making such speeches. On the other hand people will know that it is not merely by making such speeches that you get things done. On the other hand you make the people to be against you, by making such speeches. Therefore I am sure that if he thinks in calmer moments he would realize that he had given an exhibition more of his frustration than what was necessary. I may assure him that it is not the intention of Government to discriminate against Malabar. I have got the figures with reference to each year which I submitted to the States Reorganization Commission to show how Malabar was being subsidised by the other parts of the State. It is not necessary for me to go into those figures now. If I do so, it will embitter things further. It will create bitterness against Malabar. That is not necessary. But I could mention that Malabar has been living upon the income from the other parts of the State. It is not a question of being discriminated against. As I already stated in another place, if the Auditor-General or anybody else is put on the job and if he is asked to verify what has been the revenue of Malabar and what has been the expenditure on Malabar all these years, he will surely find that we have not at all discriminated against Malabar. There is no use of making such speeches. After all it is not as if Malabar can be self-sufficient and can live on its own. Many of the Malayalees are occupying high positions in Tamilnad and some of them are in low positions also. Is it good in the interests of those Malayalees working in Tamilnad, if the hon. Member makes such a speech, which would infuriate others? Therefore I would request the hon. Member to make amends for his speech, not in this House but in his own district. When he goes to his district, let him say to the people that he had made a wrong speech, if he really has got the interest of the people of Malabar in his heart. But if he wants to gain personal popularity by making such speeches, then it is a different thing. I can only say that he cannot gain popularity by making such speeches. He has been worsted in the elections. Even for the success of the Congress in Andhra, he says it was due to separation. If he thinks that he would also win and his party also would win by separation, I think it is a wrong presumption, even though I do not know what will be the fate of the party to which the hon. Member belongs. But apart from that it is no use casting aspersions and speaking without figures. I have already stated with reference to elementary education that we are spending Rs. 6 crores. Out of that we are spending 26 per cent for the elementary school teachers of Malabar. i.e., $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores. Thus we are spending 26 per cent on Malabar whereas they are entitled only to $13\frac{1}{3}$ per cent on the basis of population and 7 per cent on the basis of the revenue derived from that district. In spite of all these

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the hon. Member has got the boldness to come and say that Government do not care for the people of Malabar and their interests have not been properly looked after. On the other hand we are trying to function as one unit without showing any discrimination either for South Kanara or Malabar. We are trying to hold the balance even between the people of the State as a whole. I will give the assurance in all sincerity and in all solemnity that as long as we continue to be here, even though there may be many M. P. Govinda Menons and others speaking like that, in spite of all that, we will continue to render justice to the people of Malabar. Ultimately when we render accounts to the people of Malabar, in case they are going out, they will go out with a grateful heart that in spite of their difficulties, the Government have been doing their best to better their lot by spending on Malabar not on the basis of the revenue obtained from the district, not on the basis of the population of the district, but taking into account the needs of the district. Taking into account the needs of Malabar, we have been taking care to see that moneys from other parts of the State are spent in Malabar to satisfy the needs of Malabar district. I do not think I need say anything further about this. As a matter of fact this has been dealt with by the Leader of the House and I also had to deal with it in a more detailed manner in the other House also. Therefore let us not speak without any basis and let us not speak without looking into the figures. And even when we speak without looking into the figures, let us also be careful in the use of words also with reference to personalities.

4-10 P.m. "The hon. Member Sri V. V. Ramaswami made a suggestion that a committee should be appointed to go into the problem of sales tax. It is a very difficult problem, I do agree. That is why the Taxation Enquiry Commission has devoted considerable attention to this question of sales tax and made certain recommendations. Before we appoint any other committee, those recommendations will have to be properly scrutinized and examined. Appointment of a committee is the easiest thing to do for anything. But the Taxation Enquiry Commission has taken very great care to tour the entire country and consider the entire aspect with reference to Central and State finances and has made certain recommendations. I am sure the hon. Member would have noted the recommendations that they have made to all the States. The imposition of a multi-point tax has been advocated. If it is said that we should give up what has been recommended for the entire India, and that we should adopt a single-point levy, that cannot be done without further careful examination and thorough investigation. As far as I am concerned, I am prepared to have an open mind. As far as we are concerned, we cannot afford to give up the sales tax and we cannot afford to reduce the collections by way of sales tax because that has become our main source of revenue. But subject to that, I am always open to conviction. If by the imposition of a single-point tax it will be possible to collect the entire amount that we are now collecting, I would be the first person to adopt it. But there are very many difficulties. I have devoted some thought to this problem

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and I may tell the hon. Member that even though it may be easy to say, 'Adopt single-point levy and make it sufficiently high so as to collect the amount now collected', the change would be for the worse. It would be a worse headache than the existing system because once we adopt the system of single-point levy, then we will have to prove at every point that a particular commodity has or has not been assessed to sales tax already. Therefore, simply for the purpose of having a change, we should not jump into the fire from the prying pan. I would counsel patience to the hon. Member Sri Ramaswami and to all those merchants who assembled at Kumbakonam and passed a resolution advocating the levy of a single-point tax. I may assure the merchant population and also the Members of this House that this problem is not an easy one. As far as I am concerned, I am definite about it that it would create much greater difficulties than we are facing now.

"Then, incidentally, the hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan referred to the tax on cigarettes, cheaper cigarettes, beedis and chewing tobacco and cited that this very Government had taken a decision 18 months ago not to tax these items. May I tell him that nothing is final in this world? Government Orders are never final. We have to review the decisions as things go on. There is no use of saying that there is inconsistency. There is bound to be inconsistency because there can be consistency only if the situation also does not change. When we are growing and changing, we have to take decisions according to the changing circumstances. Therefore, there is no use of quoting some statement made 18 months ago that the Government would not tax cheaper cigarettes and other types of tobacco. We will have to take decisions as things change. In view of the changing circumstances and taking into account the requirements of the State, we have come to the conclusion that it is necessary to tax these items also. But I may give this assurance that as far as this tobacco is concerned, we are trying to adopt a single-point levy. I think the Bill has been published. (Sri M. P. Govinda Menon: 'It has been published'.) It is very easy to adopt a single-point levy as far as this item is concerned because it is a controlled commodity. It is a commodity controlled by the Central Excise Department. It cannot move from one point to another without a permit. Therefore, we will be able to know whether a particular item has already been taxed or not. Various merchants represented that there should not be a multi-point levy. More than all that, the difficulties of the petty traders will be avoided. The various shopkeepers, the panwalas and others should not be harassed by being required to maintain and submit their accounts to Sales Tax Officers. Therefore, the Government have decided that there should be a single-point tax as far as this item is concerned. I am sure when the Bill comes before this House, it will be welcomed.

"A point was made with reference to Neiveli Lignite Project. Hon. Members may be assured that the interests of the State will in no way be jeopardised by the arrangement we are making, that

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is, the participation of the Central Government in the exploitation of the lignite available in Neiveli. At whatever point we are ready to take over, the Government of India are prepared to hand it over to us. Moreover, in respect of schemes involving large expenditure, it is better that the Central Government are in the picture. After all, when the lignite is exploited, it will have to be used here. There is no question of this lignite being taken to any other place. Therefore, we should first see that we get out the lignite as early as possible and utilize it for the purpose of developing our own industries and for the purpose of production of thermal power. That is our first objective now. For that purpose, it does not matter whether the State Government are in the picture or the Central Government are in the picture. What we want is lignite and the use of the lignite for the development of our industry and for the production of power. That is the only thing we have in mind and we are doing everything for that purpose.

“ The hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition made a point with reference to Police expenditure and asked me to compare this expenditure with the expenditure incurred in other States on Police. I may tell him that I have made a comparative study of the Police expenditure in this State as also in the various other States because I had recently to attend a conference of the Home Ministers in Delhi and this was a relevant point which I had to go through. I may tell him that as far as the bigger States are concerned—leave alone small States like Coorg and the sparsely populated State of Assam—as far as the Part A and Part B States are concerned, our State is the one spending least on Police. Even taking the number of policemen compared with the population, we have got the least number of policemen. But I am glad to say that the efficiency of our Police is such that with regard to investigation of crime and successful prosecution of criminals, we almost stand first. In respect of that, we may be proud of our Police force and policemen. Therefore, the hon. Member need not go with the impression that the other States are doing well and that they are spending less on the Police services and that we are extravagant in that respect. On the other hand, we are extravagant only in respect of the developmental aspect of the State and not the Police aspect. Therefore, I may tell the hon. Member that with reference to expenditure on Jails and Police, we are not extravagant. On the other hand, we are spending the least amount on Police.

4-50
P.m.

“ With reference to capital expenditure also Dr. John was saying that we should take an account and find out whether it is worthwhile spending these amounts. I do agree with him that a scrutiny should be made. That scrutiny is not made after the execution of the scheme, but even before taking up any scheme, an estimate is prepared and then the various returns from the scheme are estimated. Then we find out whether it is worthwhile to take up the scheme. Whether it is an irrigation scheme, or

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electricity scheme or industrial scheme, even before taking up any scheme, a proper scrutiny and examination is made. But formerly when Britishers were here, they calculated on the basis that when they invest a certain capital on a scheme, as Government they should get sufficient return, i.e., 6 per cent return to cover the interest and a little more profit over and above that. But we cannot take such an attitude now. We cannot take only the returns to the Government. We have to take into account the returns to the community and the benefit which a particular scheme may confer on the community as a whole. We have to consider what is the total return to the community from this expenditure. When the community represented by the Government spends money and as a result of that, apart from the income to the Government if the community derives a large amount of benefit, it is taken as a really profitable scheme. That is the method we are adopting before we decide to take up a scheme. We consider not only the specific returns to the Government alone but the benefits conferred on the people also. That is why we are able to take up a large number of capital schemes and I have no doubt that the hon. Members would agree that people also are being benefited by these schemes. There is no question about it. A large number of electricity schemes, irrigation schemes, tube-well schemes, educational schemes, road schemes, etc., are being taken up and there is no doubt that the country is being developed as a result of which the people are also deriving benefit. Sir, it would always be the attempt of this Government not merely to ask for the sanction of monies from the Legislature, but to see that the monies are properly utilized for the development of our country, for the prosperity of our people and to the ultimate happiness of our people. Thank you, Sir."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question is—

' That the Madras Appropriation Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1955), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

The Schedule was put and carried.

Clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I move—

' That the Madras Appropriation Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1955), as passed by the Assembly, be passed '."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The question is—

' That the Madras Appropriation Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1955) as passed by the Assembly, be passed '."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed.